

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY	China	REPORT NO.	
SUBJECT	Chinese Communist Central Military Council Order to Expedite Reorganization of the Navy and Air Force	DATE DISTR.	14 August 1953
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1. In early January 1953 the Chinese Communist Central Military Council¹ ordered the major (sic) military areas to transfer an unspecified number of male Combat Heroes² and male Meritorious Personnel³ from the army to the navy or air force in order to expedite reorganization of the navy and air force and to provide a high political standard within these two services.
2. The Council authorized each military area to transfer 200 to 250 such persons from army units under its jurisdiction, with 15% or less of this number to be combat soldiers. Each person to be transferred must be approved by the Central Military Council, be under 30 years of age, be a party or corps member and have higher than a primary school education. The number of combat heroes transferred was not to exceed 20% of the total number transferred.⁴ Each person so transferred was to attend a navy or air force training school before assignment to a navy or air force cadre position of similar rank.⁵

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1. [] Comment. This presumably refers to the Revolutionary Military Council, although it is possible that the designation has been changed.

2. [] Comment. Combat Heroes, selected upon the recommendation of a political department above divisional level and the approval of a political department of a field army or major (sic) military area, are persons who have made unusual contributions to successful Chinese Communist army operations in battle. The Combat Hero classification includes different grades, i.e., North China First Grade Combat Hero.

[] Comment. Information available in April 1952 indicated that Combat Heroes were nominated for that title by their own units.

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3. [] Comment. Meritorious Personnel, selected upon the recommendation of a political department above regimental level and the approval of a political department above army level, are persons who have made unusual contributions in one of several type missions, not necessarily associated with actual war operations. The Meritorious Personnel classification includes different grades, i.e., Special Grade Meritorious Personnel, First Grade Meritorious Personnel, etc.

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[] Comment. The Meritorious Personnel classification may be the same as the Model Troop classification which available information 25X1 mentions as an award slightly less important than Combat Hero.

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5. [] Comment. Presumably this indicates that each man would be assigned to a position in the navy or air force similar to the position he held in the army.

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